

Message Text

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TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MAY 24 ROUNDUP

1. IN WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE MAY 24 TITLED "SALT OUTLOOK:
EACH SIDE'S ASSESSMENT FITS ITS OWN NEEDS," PETER OSNOS SAID
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN GENEVA LAST WEEK "IS CONUNDRUM."
OSNOS SAID "FOR VANCE, STRESSING POSITIVE PLAINLY WAS
POLITICALLY APPROPRIATE. CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE
SALT TOP-PRIORITY ITEM, AND AFTER DRAMATIC SETBACK LAST TIME
AN IMAGE OF SUCCESS IN DEALING WITH MOSCOW WAS DESIRABLE.
HENCE SMILES. SOVIETS, ON OTHER HAND, HAVE MADE THEIR IR-
RITATION WITH NEW AMERICAN PRESIDENT ON MOST MATTERS MAJOR
THEME OF KREMLIN PRONOUNCEMENTS. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT UNTIL
SOVIET LEADERS ARE SATISFIED THAT THEY HAVE TAUGHT CARTER
LESSON FOR HIS EARLY BRASHNESS -- WHEN HE STUNNED THEM WITH
RADICAL PLAN FOR DEEP CUTS IN NUCLEAR ARMS AND SPOKE OUT IN
DEFENSE OF INDIVIDUAL DISSENTERS -- THEY WILL TREAT HIS
ADMINISTRATION COLDLY. IN FACT, OUTCOME OF GENEVA DISCUS-
SIONS COULD TURN OUT TO HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE IF GAINS
MADE THERE -- AND EVEN SOVIETS AGREE THAT THERE WERE SOME --
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CAN BE EXPANDED IN FUTURE SESSIONS.... THERE DOES SEEM
BETTER CHANCE OF REACHING AN ACCORD NOW THAN THERE WAS BE-
FORE VANCE AND GROMYKO MET."

2. BERNARD GWERTZMAN IN NEW YORK TIMES NEWS ANALYSIS SAID
GENEVA AGREEMENT HAS NOT ENDED PROBLEMS. VANCE AND GROMYKO
"FOUND THEMSELVES AT CONCLUSION OF TALKS LIKE ARCHITECTS

UNCERTAIN WHETHER THEIR STRUCTURE WILL EVER SEE LIGHT OF DAY." GWERTZMAN SAID TWO SIDES "STILL HAVE DISAGREEMENTS OVER WHAT SHOULD ACTUALLY BE INCLUDED IN EACH OF THREE SECTIONS OF GENEVA FRAMEWORK. MOREOVER, CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL FACE DIFFICULT TASK IN PERSUADING CONGRESS TO APPROVE NEW TREATY IF IT MAKES APPARENTLY NECESSARY COMPROMISES OVER SUCH ISSUES AS AMERICAN CRUISE MISSILE." TIMES CORRESPONDENT SAID "SO FAR, MR. CARTER HAS HAD STRONG BACKING ON CAPITOL HILL FOR HIS ARMS PROPOSALS. MR. VANCE WILL LEARN REACTION ONCE HE STARTS BRIEFING CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES TOMORROW."

3. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED TASS REPORT BLAMING U.S. FOR LACK OF FURTHER PROGRESS ON SALT. TASS SAID THERE WAS "STILL LONG DISTANCE TO BE COVERED" BEFORE NEW SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENT LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS COULD BE CONCLUDED. COMMENTARY BY YRUI KORNILOV, TIMES OBSERVED, CLOSELY FOLLOWED WORDS USED BY GROMYKO AT GENEVA AIRPORT BEFORE HE RETURNED HOME. "TASS COMMENTARY DID NOT ADVANCE SOVIET POSITION ON ARMS CONTROL ISSUES," TIMES POINTED OUT.

4. IN EDITORIAL, NEW YORK TIMES DESCRIBED PRESIDENT CARTER'S GUIDELINES ON ARMS SALES AS ADMIRABLE. TIMES NOTED "THERE ARE MANY LOOPHOLES, SECURED BY PENTAGON. BUT GUIDELINES REPRESENT VICTORIES FOR STATE DEPARTMENT. WHETHER IT CAN RESIST PRESSURES LIKELY TO COME FROM MILITARY SERVICE, ARMS PRODUCERS AND FOREIGN BUYERS REMAINS TO BE SEEN."

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5. IN NEWS ANALYSIS FROM MOSCOW, BALTIMORE SUN CORRESPONDENT HAL PIPER SAID CALLING OFF COLD WAR IS LIKELY TO BE EASIER FOR PRESIDENT CARTER, WHO DECLARED END TO IT IN HIS NOTRE DAME SPEECH SUNDAY, THAN FOR RUSSIANS." PIPER SAID "LONDON-BASED INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES ISSUED REPORT LAST MONTH SUGGESTING THAT SOVIET UNION IS LIGHT-WEIGHT SUPERPOWER THAT BUILDS ARMS BECAUSE ITS CULTURE AND IDEOLOGY NO LONGER EXERT ANY ATTRACTION IN WORLD. DIPLOMATIC SPECIALISTS HERE TENDED TO AGREE WITH VIEW THAT ORGANICALLY MOSCOW IS NOT NECESSARILY MILITARIST NOR EXPANSIONIST, BUT SIMPLY KNOWS NO OTHER WAY TO COMMAND GLOBAL RESPECT THAN THROUGH ARMED MIGHT. IF THIS VIEW IS CORRECT, KREMLIN MAY FEEL ITSELF COMPELLED TO KEEP UP COLD WAR CONFRONTATION -- BECAUSE IT IS TOO WEAK FOR COOPERATION."

6. TIME MAGAZINE, IN MAY 30 ISSUE, SAID "BECAUSE OF LAST WEEK'S PROGRESS, IT HAS BECOME MUCH MORE LIKELY THAT SALT TWO TREATY WILL BE READY BY OCT. 3, WHEN SALT ONE'S

INTERIM LIMIT ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS EXPIRES." LANCE MORROW, IN TIME ARTICLE TITLED "HOW TO DEAL WITH RUSSIANS," SAID RUSSIANS "RESPOND BEST WHEN APPROACHED WITH CLEAR, FIRM, DIRECT GOALS. AT SAME TIME, IT IS WELL TO KEEP THEM OFF BALANCE BY NEVER ALLOWING THEM TO KNOW IN EVERY DETAIL HOW U.S. WILL RESPOND IN SPECIFIC SITUATIONS."

7. MAY 30 U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORTS, IN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, ASKED ABOUT LARGE-SCALE RUSSIAN MILITARY BUILD-UP. HE SAID PURPOSE OF SALT "IS TO CREATE CONDITIONS OF MUTUAL STABILITY, PARITY. THIS IS WHY SALT NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW SO SENSITIVE AND SO VERY IMPORTANT.... IF SALT RESULTS IN AGREEMENT WHICH PRODUCE BOTH STABILITY AND PARITY, THEN I THINK ANSWER MAY NOT BE VERY OMINOUS. BUT IF WE CANNOT REACH SUCH SALT AGREEMENT, THEN THIS QUESTION CONCERNING SOVIET MOTIVE IN CONTINUING ITS BUILD-UP IS BOUND TO BE RAISED WITH AN INCREASING UNCLASSIFIED

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SENSE OF URGENCY BY PUBLIC AND BY CONGRESS." ASKED IF FAILURE TO ACHIEVE SALT AGREEMENT BY OCTOBER MEANS RUNAWAY ARMS RACE, BRZEZINSKI SAID "NOT NECESSARILY. IT REALLY DEPENDS SOMEWHAT ON WHAT HAPPENS."

8. CLARENCE A. ROBINSON, JR., WRITING IN MAY 23 AVIATION NEWS AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, SAID U.S. IS CONSIDERING MORATORIUM ON CRUISE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH SOVIETS ON SECOND SALT TREATY. HE SAID MORATORIUM WOULD BE FOR PERIOD BETWEEN SECOND SALT TREATY AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT REDUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, CALLED SALT THREE.

9. SCIENCE MAGAZINE, IN ITS MAY ISSUE, COMMENTED ON "LITTLE NOTICED" DERWINSKI AMENDMENT TO ACDA AUTHORIZATION BILL, SAYING "MOTIVES AND LIKELY IMPACT OF AMENDMENT ARE WIDELY BELIEVED TO SIGNIFY FURTHER HARD GOING FOR MR. WARNKE, WHOSE SENATE CONFIRMATION NEARLY FOUNDERED ON CHARGES HE WAS TOO 'SOFT.'" MAGAZINE SAID AMENDMENT IS GIVEN "SOME CHANCE" OF SURVIVING HOUSE-SENATE CONFERENCE "SINCE HOUSE PASSED IT BY HEFTY MARGIN OF 259 TO 148, AND SINCE WARNKE AND ACDA ARE LYING LOW ON SUBJECT.... ACDA APPARENTLY SEES AMENDMENT'S LANGUAGE AS SUFFICIENTLY VAGUE THAT IT COULD COMPLY WITHOUT CREATING TOO MUCH OF STIR. BUT WHATEVER DIFFERENCE AMENDMENT EVENTUALLY MAKES, AT MOMENT IT INDICATES HAIR-TRIGGER SENSITIVITY OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSERVATIVES TO WARNKE'S EVERY MOVE." VANCE

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